

## **USIBWC SCHEDULES FEBRUARY 2 PUBLIC HEARING ON ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has scheduled a public hearing on February 2 in San Diego to present the findings of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for Clean Water Act Compliance at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) and to take public comments on the DSEIS. The public hearing will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the San Ysidro Middle School Auditorium, 4345 Otay Mesa Road.

The DSEIS analyzes and evaluates the impacts of alternatives for the SBIWTP to achieve compliance with the Clean Water Act. The SBIWTP, located in San Diego, California at the international border, treats sewage emanating from Tijuana, Mexico; the effluent is then discharged into U.S. waters approximately 3.5 miles offshore via an ocean outfall. The SBIWTP currently operates and discharges at the advanced primary level and cannot meet all the requirements of the Clean Water Act and its discharge permit, including secondary treatment requirements.

The DSEIS analyzes six main action alternatives, including both interim and long-term alternatives, as well as the No Action Alternative that would continue operation of the SBIWTP as an advanced primary facility.

The DSEIS is available at [http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/SEIS/Draft\\_SEIS.pdf](http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/SEIS/Draft_SEIS.pdf) and in local public libraries in the San Diego area. Written comments on the DSEIS must be postmarked by February 28, 2005 and addressed to: Mr. Daniel Borunda, Environmental Protection Specialist, Compliance Section, USIBWC, 4171 North Mesa Street, C-100, El Paso, Texas 79902.

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